



General Assembly

## ***Amendment***

***January Session, 2017***

**LCO No. 8410**



Offered by:

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REP. STANESKI, 119<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
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To: Subst. House Bill No. 7053

File No. 321

Cal. No. 236

### ***"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) (a) The Office of Higher  
4 Education shall publish on its Internet web site, links to the existing  
5 transfer and articulation programs developed between the Connecticut  
6 state colleges and universities and The University of Connecticut. Each  
7 institution within the jurisdiction of the constituent units shall include  
8 on its Internet web site a link to the Officer of Higher Education's  
9 Internet web site and provide information regarding such transfer and  
10 articulation programs. Each institution of higher education in this  
11 state, receiving federal funding pursuant to the Higher Education Act  
12 of 1965, shall provide on its Internet web site a link to the institution's

13 most recent institutional profile provided on the National Center for  
14 Education Statistic's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System  
15 Internet web site.

16 (b) The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities shall provide  
17 any student who has been accepted for admission to an institution  
18 within the jurisdiction of the regional community-technical college  
19 system with information about the existing transfer and articulation  
20 programs between the regional technical-community colleges and  
21 four-year public institutions of higher education.

22 (c) Not later than January 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the  
23 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and The University of  
24 Connecticut shall each submit a report, in accordance with the  
25 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing  
26 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
27 relating to higher education. Such report shall analyze the existing  
28 transfer and articulation programs utilized by students who attended a  
29 regional technical-community college and who transferred to a four-  
30 year public institution of higher education, including, but not limited  
31 to, (1) enrollment of transfer students, (2) the average number of  
32 credits accepted by the four-year public institution, and (3) graduation  
33 rates of transfer students.

34 Sec. 2. Section 10a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
35 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2018*):

36 (a) There is established a Planning Commission for Higher  
37 Education to develop and ensure the implementation of a higher  
38 education strategic master plan [for higher education] in Connecticut.

39 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:  
40 (A) [Two members appointed by the speaker of the House of  
41 Representatives, who shall have experience as former administrators  
42 or faculty members in independent institutions of higher education in  
43 this state; (B) two members appointed by the president pro tempore of  
44 the Senate, one of whom shall be a former administrator or faculty

45 member of a regional community-technical college and one of whom  
46 shall be a former administrator or faculty member of The University of  
47 Connecticut; (C) two members appointed by the majority leader of the  
48 House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a former  
49 administrator or faculty member of a state university in the  
50 Connecticut State University System and one of whom shall be a  
51 former administrator or faculty member of Charter Oak State College;  
52 (D) two members appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one  
53 of whom shall have experience in the field of arts and culture and one  
54 of whom shall have experience in the field of health care; (E) two  
55 members appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
56 Representatives who shall have knowledge and expertise in science  
57 and technology; (F) two members appointed by the minority leader of  
58 the Senate who shall represent state-wide business organizations; and  
59 (G) five members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall  
60 represent a nonprofit education foundation, one of whom shall have  
61 experience in university research and its commercial application and  
62 one of whom shall have experience in the field of education from  
63 prekindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive.] The president of the  
64 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the president of The  
65 University of Connecticut, or their designees from the Board of  
66 Regents and Board of Trustees; (B) the provost of the Connecticut State  
67 Colleges and Universities and the provost of The University of  
68 Connecticut; (C) the chair of the Board of Regents for the Connecticut  
69 State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Trustees for The  
70 University of Connecticut, or the chairs' designees; (D) the president,  
71 vice president or chair of the board of a large independent institution  
72 of higher education in the state, to be selected by the president of the  
73 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (E) the president,  
74 vice president or chair of the board of a small independent institution  
75 of higher education in the state, to be selected by the president of the  
76 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (F) a representative  
77 from a private occupational school, to be selected by the Commissioner  
78 of Education; (G) a teaching faculty representative from the  
79 Connecticut State Universities, to be selected by the president of the

80 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (H) a teaching faculty  
81 representative from the regional community-technical colleges, to be  
82 selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and  
83 Universities; (I) a teaching faculty representative from The University  
84 of Connecticut, to be selected by the president of The University of  
85 Connecticut; (J) a teaching faculty representative from a private  
86 occupational school in the state, to be selected by the Commissioner of  
87 Education; (K) one member appointed by the president pro tempore of  
88 the Senate, who shall be a representative of a large manufacturing  
89 employer in the state; (L) one member appointed by the speaker of the  
90 House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a large  
91 financial or insurance services employer in the state; (M) one member  
92 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be a  
93 representative of an information technology or digital media employer  
94 in the state; (N) one member appointed by the minority leader of the  
95 Senate, who shall be a representative of a small business employer in  
96 the state; (O) one member appointed by the majority leader of the  
97 House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a health  
98 care employer in the state; and (P) one member appointed by the  
99 minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a  
100 representative of a small business employer in the state. The  
101 commission membership shall, where feasible, reflect the state's  
102 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

103 (2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting  
104 members on the commission: (A) The [president of the Connecticut  
105 State Colleges and Universities, the] Commissioner of Education, the  
106 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the  
107 Labor Commissioner, or their designees; (B) [the chairpersons of the  
108 boards of trustees and the chief executive officers of each constituent  
109 unit of the state system of higher education, or their designees; (C) the  
110 chairperson of the board and] the president of the Connecticut  
111 Conference of Independent Colleges, or [their designees; (D)] the  
112 president's designee; (C) a member of the State Board of Education, as  
113 designated by the chairperson of the state board; (D) the

114 superintendent of the technical high school system, or the  
115 superintendent's designee; (E) the chief executive officer of  
116 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, or the chief executive officer's  
117 designee; (F) the director of the Office of Higher Education; (G) the  
118 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of  
119 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
120 education and employment advancement; and [(E)] (H) the Secretary  
121 of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.

122 (3) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson from among the  
123 commission's members. The commission shall elect a [chairperson]  
124 vice-chairperson at its first meeting. Any vacancies shall be filled by  
125 the appointing authority. The term of each appointed member of the  
126 commission shall be three years from the date of appointment. The  
127 commission members shall serve without compensation. [except for  
128 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.] The  
129 commission may seek the advice and participation of any person,  
130 organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to carry out  
131 the provisions of this section. The commission may, within available  
132 appropriations, retain consultants to assist in carrying out its duties.  
133 The commission may receive funds from any public or private sources  
134 to carry out its activities. The commission shall be within the Office of  
135 Higher Education and shall be responsible for implementing any  
136 policies developed by the commission.

137 (b) [In accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section  
138 10a-6, the] The commission shall develop and ensure the  
139 implementation of a higher education strategic master plan that:

140 (1) Examines the impact of demographic, workforce and education  
141 trends on higher education in the state;

142 (2) (A) Establishes numerical goals for 2015, [and] 2020 and 2025 to  
143 increase the number of people earning a bachelor's degree, associate  
144 degree or certificate, increases the number of people successfully  
145 completing coursework at the community college level and the

146 number of people entering the state's workforce and eliminates the  
147 postsecondary achievement gap between minority students and the  
148 general student population, and (B) includes specific strategies for  
149 meeting such goals, as well as strategies for meeting the goals  
150 pursuant to [subdivision (2) of] subsection [(a)] (b) of section 10a-6 and  
151 section 10a-11c;

152 (3) Examines and recommends changes to funding policies,  
153 practices and accountability in order to (A) align policies and practices  
154 with the goals set forth in subsection (b) of section 10a-6 [, including an  
155 evaluation of the use of strategic and performance-based incentive  
156 funding] and section 10a-11c; (B) determine how the constituent units  
157 shall annually report to the General Assembly and the public in a  
158 transparent and thorough manner regarding each constituent unit's  
159 expenditures, staffing and state support, including the state  
160 appropriation, personnel expenses, personnel fringe benefits, capital  
161 improvement bonds and financial aid to students; and (C) improve  
162 coordination of appropriation, tuition and financial aid and seek ways  
163 to maximize funding through federal and private grants; and

164 (4) Recommends ways in which each constituent unit of the state  
165 system of higher education and independent institution of higher  
166 education in the state can, in a manner consistent with such  
167 institution's mission, expand such institution's role in advancing the  
168 state's economic growth.

169 (c) In developing the higher education strategic master plan, the  
170 commission shall review the plans pursuant to sections 10a-6 and 10a-  
171 11. In addition, the commission may consider the following: (1)  
172 Establishing incentives for institutional performance and productivity;  
173 (2) increasing financial aid incentive programs, especially in workforce  
174 shortage areas and for minority students; (3) implementing mandatory  
175 college preparatory curricula in high schools and aligning such  
176 curricula with curricula in institutions of higher education; (4) seeking  
177 partnerships with the business community and public institutions of  
178 higher education to serve the needs of workforce retraining that may

179 include bridge programs in which businesses work directly with  
180 higher education institutions to move students into identified  
181 workforce shortage areas; (5) establishing collaborative partnerships  
182 between public high schools and institutions of higher education; (6)  
183 implementing programs in high school to assist high school students  
184 seeking a college track or alternative pathways for post-secondary  
185 education, such as vocational and technical opportunities; (7)  
186 developing policies to promote and measure retention and graduation  
187 rates of students, including graduation rates for students who have  
188 transferred among two or more constituent units or public institutions  
189 of higher education; (8) developing policies to promote the Transfer  
190 and Articulation program and the Guaranteed Admission program  
191 state wide; (9) addressing the educational needs of minority students  
192 and nontraditional students, including, but not limited to, part-time  
193 students, incumbent workers, adult learners, former inmates and  
194 immigrants, in order to increase enrollment and retention in  
195 institutions of higher education; and [(9)] (10) addressing the  
196 affordability of tuition at institutions of higher education and the issue  
197 of increased student indebtedness.

198 (d) Not later than June 1, 2014, the commission shall submit a  
199 preliminary report on the development of the higher education  
200 strategic master plan and, not later than September 1, 2014, the  
201 commission shall submit the higher education strategic master plan,  
202 including specific goals and benchmarks for the years ending 2020 and  
203 2025, together with any recommendations for appropriate legislation  
204 and funding to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the  
205 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
206 education and employment advancement, education, commerce, labor  
207 and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

208 (e) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the  
209 commission shall submit a report to the Governor and the joint  
210 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
211 matters relating to higher education and employment advancement,  
212 education, commerce, labor and appropriations, in accordance with

213 section 11-4a, on the implementation of the plan and progress made  
214 toward achieving the goals specified in the plan. The commission may  
215 periodically suggest changes to the goals as necessary.

216 (f) Not later than January 1, [2016] 2018, for purposes of  
217 implementing the higher education strategic master plan pursuant to  
218 subsection (b) of this section, the commission, in collaboration with the  
219 Office of Policy and Management, shall establish [working groups and  
220 consult with any existing working groups, commissions or task forces  
221 that may investigate and offer guidance on specific objectives  
222 identified by the commission or the office, including, but not limited  
223 to, outcomes-based financing and workforce development, the  
224 examination of which by the commission are essential to achieving the  
225 goals specified in the plan.] two standing subcommittees and may  
226 establish any working groups necessary to supplement the work of the  
227 subcommittees or work. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the  
228 commission shall appoint the members of the standing subcommittees  
229 and working groups, and may appoint members to such standing  
230 subcommittees and working groups who are not members of the  
231 commission.

232 (1) One standing subcommittee shall focus on data, metrics and  
233 accountability, and build upon the work of the Higher Education  
234 Coordinating Council and Preschool through 20 and Workforce  
235 Information Network in its measures and data. Such measures shall be  
236 used to assess the progress of each public institution of higher  
237 education toward meeting the commission's goals. The subcommittee  
238 shall collaborate with the Labor Department to (A) produce periodic  
239 reports, capable of being sorted by student age, on the employment  
240 status, job retention and earnings of students enrolled in academic and  
241 noncredit vocational courses and programs, both prior to enrollment  
242 and after completion of such courses and programs, who leave the  
243 constituent units upon graduation or otherwise, and (B) develop an  
244 annual affordability index for public higher education that is based on  
245 state-wide median family income. The subcommittee shall submit  
246 annual reports to the commission and the constituent units.



247     (2) One standing subcommittee shall focus on the higher education  
 248     strategic master plan, analyzing the plans submitted since 2014 and  
 249     making recommendations to the commission on key areas. The  
 250     commission may recommend key areas of focus each year and require  
 251     the standing subcommittee to report to the commission on such key  
 252     areas.

253     (g) The commission may appoint advisory committees with  
 254     representatives from public and independent institutions of higher  
 255     education to study methods and proposals for coordinating efforts of  
 256     the public institutions of higher education and the independent  
 257     institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in  
 258     section 10a-11c.

259     (h) The commission may review its goals and plans and determine  
 260     how best to align its work with the work of the Higher Education  
 261     Innovation and Entrepreneurship Working Group and the Higher  
 262     Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee, established  
 263     pursuant to sections 32-39s and 32-39t.

264     Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) The Office of Higher  
 265     Education may solicit and accept for use any gift of money or property  
 266     made by will or otherwise, and any grant of money, services or  
 267     property from the federal government, the state or any political  
 268     subdivision thereof or any private source for the purpose of  
 269     administering the Planning Commission of Higher Education. Such  
 270     funds shall be deposited in an account to be known as the "Planning  
 271     Commission for Higher Education Fund" which shall be a separate,  
 272     nonlapsing account within the General Fund."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	10a-11b
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section